



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## August 13, 2007

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Week Ending, August 12, 2007

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**WEATHER:** The week started out sunny and dry with a high centered over northern New York. A series of disturbances moved across the region during the week with significant rainfall on the 8<sup>th</sup> and again on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures for the week averaged near seasonal normal with rainfall well above normal in the Hudson Valley but below normal in the Finger Lakes, the Niagara Frontier, and the St. Lawrence Valley.

**CROPS:** Scattered showers passing through the state helped provide much needed moisture for several counties. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 7 percent very short, 22 percent short and 71 percent adequate. Soybean condition was rated as 3 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Hay condition was rated as 7 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Corn condition was rated as 2 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 38 percent excellent. Second cutting of alfalfa hay was 92 percent complete the same as last year. Fifty percent of the third cutting of alfalfa was harvested compared to 35 percent from last year. Second cutting of timothy hay was 74 percent completed the same as last year. Third cutting of timothy was 29 percent harvested ahead of last year's 19 percent. Oats were 49 percent harvested behind last year's 59 percent. Winter wheat was 89 percent complete compared to last year's 92 percent. Eighteen percent of potatoes were harvested behind last year's 31 percent. The following are comments from across the state: Cortland County received some much needed rain, but the mowed fields were drying too quickly for haylage. In Herkimer County the corn and soybeans were doing well with the help of warm weather and periodic showers. Rains have been spotty in Onondaga County and the crops are looking stressed. Also in the county, oats were maturing irregularly due to poor emergence and the third cutting of hay was off to a good start but then faltered. Dutchess County received some rain on Friday, but overall conditions looked good throughout the Hudson Valley. Humid weather and showers made it difficult to bale hay in Washington County. Some growers in Jefferson County have indicated that they will be chopping silage in late August due to the excellent condition of their corn. Ontario County was continuing to harvest dry hay. Dry hay continued to be made in Albany County with some excellent quality bales being made. Crops in Montgomery and Fulton County received another shower and continue to look great.

**FRUIT:** Apples were judged to be in 4 percent poor condition, percent 8 fair, percent 46 good, and 42 percent excellent. Grapes were 5 percent poor condition, 6 percent fair, 56 percent good and 33 percent excellent. Peaches were 12 percent poor condition, 13 percent fair, 25 percent good and 50 percent excellent. Pears were 6 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 38 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, some rain was received, but dry conditions still existed throughout the region. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie Grape Belt, 2.32 inches of rain was accumulated so far in August. The growing degree days accumulated since April 1 totaled 1640 through August 8. A few berries were beginning to soften on Vignoles and brix was at 5.7. Early grape varieties like Foch, Aureore, and Fredonia have been softening and changing color for the past several days. Growers were busy scouting leaves for powdery mildew and downy mildew. In St. Lawrence County, a little rainfall and plenty of sunshine kept farmers busy and their roadside stands as well. Grape harvest is expected to begin within a week on the earliest varieties in Onondaga County. In the Hudson Valley fruit region, conditions look good due to the gentle rains received on Friday. Orange County growers continue to wait for the recent rains to sink into the ground.

**VEGETABLE:** Good rains were received by most of the state last week, alleviating some of the dry conditions. However, the far western counties are still very dry. Farm stands were very busy. Harvesting of tomatoes continued and was 30 percent complete. Condition of tomatoes was mostly good to excellent. Lettuce condition was in fair to good condition throughout the state. Condition of onions was reported to be mostly good. Irrigated onions were growing well in the western counties, but non-irrigated onions were still small. Sweet corn harvest continued and was 34 percent complete. Sweet corn condition was reported to be good to excellent. Snap bean harvest was 40 percent complete with varying yields reported. Snap bean condition was fair to good. Cabbage harvest was 30 percent complete, and condition was good.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in fair condition. Pasture conditions were rated as 4 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 12, 2007**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>												
Albany	88	50	71	0	149	1922	+203	1.55	+0.78	21.41	+6.89	
Glens Falls	89	53	69	0	133	1578	+73	0.92	+0.10	14.60	+0.51	
Poughkeepsie	90	52	72	0	156	2061	+266	2.36	+1.52	21.73	+4.72	
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>												
Boonville	79	51	66	0	112	1277	+96	0.86	-0.18	16.03	-3.35	
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>												
Plattsburgh	85	53	68	-1	128	1482	-52	0.45	-0.47	16.50	+3.17	
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>												
Canton	85	49	70	+3	139	1522	+157	0.12	-0.79	15.20	+1.19	
Massena	84	54	70	+2	138	1581	+134	0.33	-0.51	14.05	+1.17	
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>												
Buffalo	89	60	75	+6	180	1908	+270	0.08	-0.84	9.02	-5.14	
Wales	86	55	71	+4	145	1439	+110	0.12	-0.75	11.05	-5.50	
Niagara Falls	88	60	74	+5	173	1851	+203	0.16	-0.68	9.62	-4.11	
Rochester	87	59	75	+7	175	1949	+358	0.38	-0.39	8.65	-3.66	
Watertown	84	51	71	+4	150	1550	+175	0.37	-0.31	8.89	-2.05	
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>												
Dansville	92	53	72	+4	159	1693	+99	0.19	-0.51	10.07	-3.67	
Geneva	89	58	72	+3	157	1737	+158	0.58	-0.12	10.64	-3.04	
Honeoye	89	55	72	+2	155	1605	-36	0.31	-0.39	12.74	-0.73	
Ithaca	87	55	71	+3	145	1564	+133	1.55	+0.78	13.66	-1.10	
Penn Yan	90	58	74	+5	168	1889	+310	0.43	-0.27	10.93	-2.75	
Syracuse	87	55	73	+5	165	1856	+245	0.32	-0.45	12.82	-2.72	
Warsaw	84	55	70	+5	144	1439	+202	0.20	-0.64	14.35	-1.62	
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>												
Angelica	85	50	69	+4	135	1252	+35	0.93	+0.16	13.46	-1.92	
Elmira	90	54	73	+5	162	1669	+152	0.89	+0.21	12.05	-2.15	
Franklinville	85	52	70	+6	139	1317	+204	1.19	+0.33	12.80	-3.35	
Jamestown	87	49	70	+5	141	1468	+217	2.46	+1.48	16.51	-1.46	
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>												
Binghamton	86	56	72	+4	152	1709	+236	1.48	+0.76	16.05	+1.19	
Cobleskill	84	50	68	+1	125	1497	+131	2.31	+1.54	20.99	+5.03	
Morrisville	82	54	68	+3	130	1424	+120	1.52	+0.75	16.49	+0.74	
Norwich	89	51	69	+3	136	1477	+108	2.29	+1.57	18.36	+2.53	
Oneonta	92	54	72	+7	157	1782	+516	1.66	+0.82	19.65	+2.31	
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>												
Bridgehamton	89	59	74	+3	169	1869	+245	1.34	+0.58	17.17	+1.53	
New York	95	59	79	+3	203	2647	+424	3.19	+2.35	29.38	+12.66	

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning.

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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